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August 29, 1975

FROM: USDEL JERUSALEM CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

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Remarks of Foreign Minister Allon and Secretary Kissinger
 to Press After Meeting at Prime Minister's Office,
 August 29, 1975

Secstate WASHDC IMMEDIATE 672

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Ambassy DAMASCUS "

Ambassy JEDDA "

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Ambassy TEL AVIV "

USDEL ALEXANDRIA "

UNCLASSIFIED SECTO 10189

DEPARTMENT PASS MSG FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND HESSEN

Sec. Kissinger: Let the Foreign Minister speak.

FonMin Allon: Ladies and Gentlemen: I believe
 that we have reached the final phase of the negotiations.
 We had quite a useful day. We worked a lot. There
 are certain points which still need some clarification.
 A lot of paper work is still in front of us. Never-
 theless, we have the feeling that we are approaching
 the conclusion of our work. We shall meet again
 tomorrow night. So, tomorrow night we shall know where
 we really stand.

PREPARED BY: *[Signature]* DRAFTING DATE: 8/29/75 TEL. EXT.: CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY:
 USIS: J. Vogel USIS - J. Vogel

S/S: R Sherman

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Q: Do you think, sir, that the agreement will be initialled early next week, Sunday or Monday, the way it looks now?

ForMin Allon: Well, I will be candid with you. Unless some unforeseen problems arise on the other side of the line, I do not want to say more than that in the presence of the Secretary, I am tempted to believe that it is possible to do it early next week.

Q: Sir, could you tell us how you felt about today's negotiations?

Sec. Kissinger: I agree completely with what the Foreign Minister has said. We are in the final phases of the negotiations. There is an enormous amount of paper work that has to be done in terms ~~XXXX~~ of a basic agreement and various annexes, all of which are pregressing well and in a very good atmosphere. I share the judgment that we should aim for

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completion by the early part of next week.

Q: What did you talk about mostly today? Is it the American-Israeli relationship?

Sec. Kissinger: We really went through all the paper work connected with the agreement ---The basic agreement and the various annexes. We had an extended discussion also, of the American-Israeli relationship, all of which was conducted in a very positive and very friendly atmosphere.

Q: Dr. Kissinger, have you had to readjust your previous time table--the schedule through Saturday night? Or set new arrangements?

Sec. Kissinger: Well, so far I have not had to make new arrangements. I am hoping that I can come awfully close to my timetable.

Q: Can you remind us, sir, of your travel plans -- where to and when?

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Sec. Kissinger: Well, I believe that given the enormous amount of detail work that is involved in this agreement, that I now should stick with it until we have come to a conclusion. I expect that before I leave the area, I will visit Jordan and Saudi Arabia. But I do not expect to take any side trips until we conclude our work.

Q. Have you decided upon the American presence?

Sec. Kissinger: We have made very good progress on this. We are in the drafting phase of that issue.

Q: Are you spending Shabbat tomorrow in Jerusalem or in Riyadh?

ForMin Allen: This is a secret.

Q. Just tell us.

Sec. Kissinger: Well, I will probably go to Alexandria.

Q: Do you come back tomorrow night?

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Sec. Kissinger: I will come back tomorrow night.

Yes.

KISSINGER

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Q. Mr. Secretary, is the agreement as of now ready for initialing?			
Sec. Kissinger: No, not completely. We are in the final phases of the negotiations, which means we were spending most of our time working on documents, the basic agreement, the various annexes. We are making good progress on all.			
Q. Would you care to speculate, sir, on what day the agreement might be initialed now -- Sunday, Monday?			
Sec. Kissinger: I do not want to speculate on			
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the day. We are aiming for the early part of next week.

Q. Mr. Secretary, was the bulk of your work today dedicated to the U.S.-Israeli papers that will be involved in this agreement?

Sec. Kissinger: No. The bulk of our work was dedicated to the agreement and its annexes, and the various associated papers. But we did have a very useful discussion on U.S.-Israeli bilateral relations.

Q. Mr. Secretary, would it be fair to say at this point that since the President obviously has to make an announcement in Washington, are you really not in a position to tell even when you have reached an agreement until such time as the announcement is made in Washington?

Sec. Kissinger: From what I have seen since I came to this area, with even the tightest security

precautions occasionally things leak. I think it

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we approach that point you would hear it.

Q. I mean a certain amount of surprise still has to remain?

Sec. Kissinger: No. This is not done for effect. This is not done to maintain surprise. When we are concluded, it will be obvious, and the announcement will be made whenever it is appropriate to make it.

Q. Mr. Secretary, are you certain that it is going to be concluded?

Sec. Kissinger: I am very optimistic now that it will be concluded.

Q: Mr. Secretary, has the U.S. aid level to Israel been determined yet?

Sec. Kissinger: There is no final figure yet.

Q. Mr. Secretary, just for clearing up a couple of things. Do you expect as of now that Congress

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will approve the proposal for an American presence
 in the Sinai passes?

Sec. Kissinger: Yes.

Q. Number two, what would happen if Congress does
 not approve such a proposal? Do you expect that
 Israel and Egypt would both proceed to sign that
 agreement?

Sec. Kissinger: Well, they will have to sign the
 agreement before the Congress can act. But then there
 are a number of associated protocols which will bring
 it into effect.

Q: The Israelis, sir, are saying they will not
 sign the agreement until Congress does act.

Sec. Kissinger: I am under the impression that
 they will sign the agreement. Then there is a question
 of protocols. But I expect the Congress to act, and
 we will face that issue when it arises.

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Q. What is your schedule for the next two days?

Sec. Kissinger: My schedule is that I will go to Alexandria tomorrow, and return tomorrow night. Then we will see what remains to be done.

Q: When do you now expect to make your U.N. speech?

Sec. Kissinger: Tuesday or Wednesday.

Q. And will you then come back and complete the agreement?

Sec. Kissinger: Unless I complete it before then.

Q. Mr. Secretary, did you mean initial or sign when you said you were under the impression that they will sign the agreement?

Sec. Kissinger: Look, if there is an agreement -- which does not yet exist -- but if there is an agreement, it will be initialed and then signed shortly thereafter.

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Q: My understanding of it till now was that in the interim period between initialing and signing that that was the time you were going to try to get Congressional approval.

Sec. Kissinger: My understanding is that initialing and signing will take place fairly close to each other. Let us see whose understanding is correct.

Q. Where do you expect the signing in that case, Mr. Secretary? Would it be after the talks in Jerusalem?

Sec. Kissinger: If you remember the previous agreements, they go through a phase: First, of negotiation with American mediation, after which there are direct negotiations to implement the agreement. After the agreement is signed, there would have to be technical talks before the agreement could be implemented. These technical talks would describe the

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specific manner in which the agreement would be carried out and the timing in relation to it. So, the implementation of the agreement cannot start until the protocol is completed.

Q. When you talk about those talks, Mr. Secretary, you are referring only to the military, physical moves or also to political moves?

Sec. Kissinger: No. This will deal primarily with the technical implementation of the military matters that have been agreed to, or that will have been agreed to.

The Press: Thank you.

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